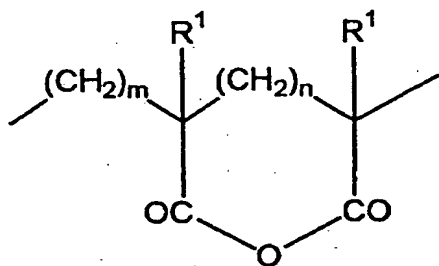


Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows (the changes are shown with ~~striketrough~~ for deleted matter and underlining for added matter). A complete listing of the claims is set out below with proper claim identifiers.

1. (Original) A thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising an acrylic block copolymer (A) which comprises a methacrylic polymer block (a) and an acrylic polymer block (b), wherein at least one of polymer blocks among the methacrylic polymer block (a) and the acrylic polymer block (b) has an acid anhydride group and/or a carboxyl group, and an acrylic polymer (B) having 1.1 or more of epoxy groups in one molecule.

2. (Original) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the acid anhydride group and/or the carboxyl group exist in the main chain of the acrylic block copolymer (A) and the acid anhydride group is represented by the general formula (1):



(Wherein R¹ is hydrogen or a methyl group and may be the same or different. n is an integer of 0 to 3 and m is an integer of 0 or 1.).

3. (Original) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1 or 2, wherein the acrylic block copolymer (A) comprises 10 to 60 % by weight of the methacrylic polymer block (a) in which a methacrylic polymer is the main component

and 90 to 40 % by weight of the acrylic polymer block (b) in which an acrylic polymer is the main component.

4. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~Claim 1, wherein the acrylic polymer block (b) comprises 50 to 100 % by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of n-butyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate and 2-methoxyethyl acrylate and 50 to 0 % by weight of other acrylate ester and/or other vinyl monomer copolymerizable with these monomers.

5. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~Claim 1, wherein the number average molecular weight measured by gel permeation chromatography of the acrylic block copolymer (A) is 30,000 to 200,000.

6. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~Claim 1, wherein a ratio (Mw/Mn) of the weight average molecular weight (Mw) to the number average molecular weight (Mn) measured by gel permeation chromatography of the acrylic block copolymer (A) is 1.8 or less.

7. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 6~~Claim 1, wherein the acrylic block copolymer (A) is a block copolymer produced by atom transfer radical polymerization.

8. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~Claim 1, wherein the glass transition temperature of the methacrylic polymer block (a) is 25 to 130°C.

9. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 8~~Claim 1, wherein the weight average molecular weight of the acrylic polymer (B) is 30,000 or less.

10. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 9~~Claim 1, wherein a glass transition temperature of the acrylic polymer (B) is at most 100°C.

11. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 10~~Claim 1, wherein the acrylic polymer (B) comprises 50 to 100 % by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of n-butyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate and 2-methoxyethyl acrylate and 50 to 0 % by weight of other acrylate ester and/or other vinyl monomer copolymerizable with these monomers.

12. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 11~~Claim 1, wherein the weight average molecular weight of the acrylic polymer (B) is 500 to 10,000.

13. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 12~~Claim 1, wherein viscosity of the acrylic polymer (B) is 35,000 mPa s or less.

14. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 13~~Claim 1, wherein 5 to 200 parts by weight of a filler is further added based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic block copolymer.

15. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 14~~Claim 1, wherein 0.1 to 20 parts by weight of a lubricant is further added based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic block copolymer.

16. (Currently Amended) A thermoplastic elastomer composition for powder slash molding, comprising the composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 15~~Claim 1.

17. (Currently Amended) A molded article, which is obtained by powder slash molding the composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 15~~Claim 1.

18. (Currently Amended) A superficial skin for an automobile interior, which is obtained by powder slash molding the composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 15~~Claim 1.